

**CHILD AND ADOLESCENT NEEDS AND  
STRENGTHS (CANS)  
COMPREHENSIVE MULTISYSTEM ASSESSMENT  
FLORIDA VERSION**

**Manual**

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A large number of individuals have collaborated in the development of the CANS Comprehensive. Along with the CANS versions for developmental disabilities, juvenile justice, and child welfare, this information integration tool is designed to support individual case planning and the planning and evaluation of service systems. The CANS-Comprehensive is an open domain tool for use in service delivery systems that address the mental health of children, adolescents and their families. The copyright is held by the Praed Foundation to ensure that it remains free to use. For specific permission to use please contact the Foundation. For more information on the CANS-Comprehensive assessment tool contact:

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Revised June 10, 2011

## **Introduction**

The Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) Comprehensive Assessment for is a multi-purpose tool developed to support care planning and level of care decision-making, to facilitate quality improvement initiatives, and to allow for the monitoring of outcomes of services.

The CANS was developed from a communication perspective so as to facilitate the linkage between the assessment process and the design of individualized service plans including the application of evidence-based practices. The following are the key characteristics that distinguish a communimetric tool from a traditional measure.

### **SIX KEY COMPONENTS OF A COMMUNIMETRIC TOOL**

1. Items are selected based on relevance to planning.
2. Action levels for all items
3. Consider culture and development before establishing the action level
4. Agnostic as to etiology—descriptive, no cause and effect
5. About the individual, not about the service. Rate needs when masked by interventions.
6. Specific ratings window (e.g. 30 days) can be over-ridden based on action levels

The CANS is easy to learn and is well liked by youth and families, providers and other partners in the services system because it is easy to understand and does not necessarily require scoring in order to be meaningful to a child and family. The way the CANS works is that each item suggests different pathways for service planning. There are four levels of each item with anchored definitions; however, these definitions are designed to translate into the following action levels:

For **Needs Domains** the following categories and action levels are used:

- 0** Indicates a dimension where there is no evidence of any needs. This may be a strength.
- 1** Indicates a dimension that requires monitoring, watchful waiting, or preventive activities.
- 2** Indicates a dimension that requires action to ensure that this identified need or risk behavior is addressed.
- 3** Indicates a dimension that requires immediate or intensive action.

For some items within these domains, the following guidelines will be more appropriate:

- 0** Indicates a life domain in which the child is excelling. This is an area of considerable strength.
- 1** Indicates a life domain in which the child is doing OK. This is an area of potential strength.
- 2** Indicates a life domain in which the child is having problems. Help is needed to improve functioning into an area of strength.
- 3** Indicates a life domain in which the child is having significant problems. Intensive help is needed to improve functioning into an area of strength.

For **Child’s Strengths** the following categories and action levels are used:

- 0** Indicates a domain where strengths exist that can be used as a centerpiece for a strength-based plan.
- 1** Indicates a domain where strengths exist but require some strength building efforts in order for them to serve as a focus of a strength-based plan.
- 2** Indicates a domain where strengths have been identified but that they require significant strength building efforts before they can be effectively utilized in as a focus of a strength-based plan.
- 3** Indicates a domain in which efforts are needed in order to identify potential strengths for strength building efforts.

Decision support applications include the development of specific algorithms to recommend the appropriate intensity of services including treatment foster care, intensive community services, supportive and traditional outpatient care.

In terms of quality improvement activities, a number of settings have utilized a fidelity model approach to look at service/treatment/action planning based on the CANS assessment. A rating of ‘2’ or ‘3’ on a CANS need suggests that this area must be addressed in the plan. A rating of a ‘0’ or ‘1’ identifies a strength that can be used for strength-based planning and a ‘2’ or ‘3’ a strength that should be the focus on strength-building activities.

Finally, the CANS tool can be used to monitor outcomes. This can be accomplished in two ways. First, items that are initially rated a ‘2’ or ‘3’ are monitored over time to determine the percent of individuals who move to a rating of ‘0’ or ‘1’ (resolved need, built strength). Or, dimension scores can be generated by summing items within each of the dimensions (Symptoms, Risk Behaviors, Functioning, etc). These scores can be compared over the course of treatment. CANS dimension (domain) scores have been shown to be valid outcome measures in residential treatment, intensive community treatment, foster care and treatment foster care, community mental health, and juvenile justice programs.

The CANS has demonstrated reliability and validity. With training, anyone with a bachelor's degree can learn to complete the tool reliably, although some applications require a higher degree. The average reliability of the CANS is 0.75 with vignettes, 0.84 with case records, and can be above 0.90 with live cases. The CANS is auditable and audit reliabilities demonstrate that the CANS is reliable at the item level. Validity is demonstrated with the CANS relationship to level of care decisions and other similar measures of symptoms, risk behaviors, and functioning.

The CANS is an open domain tool that is free for anyone to use. There is a community of people who use the various versions of the CANS and share experiences and additional items and supplementary tools.

## Basic Structure of the CANS Comprehensive

The CANS Comprehensive Multisystem Tool expands depending upon the needs of youth and the family. Basic core items are rated for all youth, unpaid caregivers and paid caregivers, when appropriate. Additional questions are required for the decision models to function.

### Core Items

#### Life Domain Functioning

Family  
 Living Situation  
 Social Functioning  
 Recreational  
 Job Functioning  
 Developmental (M)<sup>1</sup>  
 Legal  
 Medical  
 Physical  
 Sexuality  
 Sleep  
 School Behavior  
 School Achievement  
 School Attendance

#### Youth Strengths

Family  
 Interpersonal  
 Optimism  
 Educational  
 Vocational  
 Talents /Interests  
 Spiritual / Religious  
 Community Life  
 Relationship Permanence  
 Resiliency  
 Resourcefulness

#### Acculturation

Language  
 Identity  
 Ritual  
 Cultural Stress

#### Permanency Plan Caregiver Strengths and Needs

Supervision  
 Involvement  
 Knowledge  
 Organization  
 Social Resources  
 Residential Stability  
 Physical  
 Mental Health  
 Substance Abuse  
 Developmental  
 Safety

#### Youth Behavioral / Emotional Needs

Psychosis  
 Impulsivity/Hyperactivity  
 Depression  
 Anxiety  
 Oppositional  
 Conduct  
 Adjustment to Trauma (M)  
 Anger Control  
 Substance Abuse (M)

#### Youth Risk Behaviors

Suicide Risk  
 Self-Mutilation  
 Other Self Harm  
 Danger to Others (M)  
 Sexual Aggression (M)  
 Runaway (M)  
 Delinquency (M)  
 Fire Setting (M)  
 Intentional Misbehavior

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<sup>1</sup> Denotes a module

**Modules**

**Developmental Needs**

Cognitive  
 Developmental  
 Communication  
 Self Care / Daily Living

**Current Caregiver Strengths and Needs**

Supervision  
 Involvement  
 Knowledge  
 Empathy with Child  
 Organization  
 Social Resources  
 Residential Stability  
 Physical  
 Mental Health  
 Substance Abuse  
 Developmental

**Trauma**

Sexual Abuse\*  
 Physical Abuse  
 Emotional Abuse  
 Medical Trauma  
 Natural Disaster  
 Witness to Family Violence  
 Witness to Community  
 Witness/Victim - Criminal Acts

**\*If Sexual Abuse >0, complete the following:**

Emotional Closeness to Perpetrator  
 Frequency  
 Duration  
 Force  
 Reaction to Disclosure

**Adjustment**

Affect Regulation  
 Intrusions  
 Attachment  
 Dissociation

**Substance Use**

Severity of Use  
 Duration of Use  
 Stage of Recovery  
 Peer Influences  
 Parental Influences  
 Environmental Influences

**Violence Module**

History of Physical Abuse  
 History of Violence  
 Witness Domestic Violence  
 Witness Environmental Violence

**Emotional / Behavioral Risks**

Frustration Management  
 Hostility  
 Paranoid Thinking  
 Secondary Gains from Anger  
 Violent Thinking

**Resiliency Factors**

Aware of Violence Potential  
 Response to Consequences  
 Commitment to Self-Control  
 Treatment Involvement

**Sexually Aggressive Behavior**

Relationship  
 Physical Force / Threat  
 Planning  
 Age Differential  
 Type of Sex Act  
 Response to Accusation  
 Temporal Consistency  
 History of Sexual Behavior  
 Severity of Sexual Abuse  
 Prior Treatment

**Runaway**

Frequency of Running  
Consistency of Destination  
Planning  
Safety of Destination  
Involvement in Illegal Acts  
Likelihood of Return on Own  
Involvement of Others  
Realistic Expectations

**Juvenile Justice**

Seriousness  
History  
Arrests  
Planning  
Community Safety  
Legal Compliance  
Peer Influences  
Parental Influences  
Environmental Influences

**Fire Setting**

Seriousness  
History  
Planning  
Use of Accelerants  
Intention to harm  
Community Safety  
Response to Accusation  
Remorse  
Likelihood of Future Fires



**LIFE DOMAIN FUNCTIONING**

**FAMILY** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Child is doing well in relationships with family members.
- 1 Child is doing adequately in relationships with family members although some problems may exist. For example, some family members may have some problems in their relationships with child.
- 2 Child is having moderate problems with parents, siblings and/or other family members. Frequent arguing, difficulties in maintaining any positive relationship may be observed.
- 3 Child is having severe problems with parents, siblings, and/or other family members. This would include problems of domestic violence, constant arguing, etc.

**LIVING SITUATION** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 No evidence of problem with functioning in current living environment.
- 1 Mild problems with functioning in current living situation. Caregivers concerned about child's behavior in living situation.
- 2 Moderate to severe problems with functioning in current living situation. Child has difficulties maintaining his/her behavior in this setting creating significant problems for others in the residence.
- 3 Profound problems with functioning in current living situation. Child is at immediate risk of being removed from living situation due to his/her behaviors.

**SOCIAL FUNCTIONING** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Child is on a healthy social development pathway.
- 1 Child is having some minor problems with his/her social development.
- 2 Child is having some moderate problems with his/her social development.
- 3 Child is experiencing severe disruptions in his/her social development.

**RECREATIONAL** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 No evidence of any problems with recreational functioning. Child has access sufficient activities that he/she enjoys.
- 1 Child is doing adequately with recreational activities although some problems may exist.
- 2 Child is having moderate problems with recreational activities. Child may experience some problems with effective use of leisure time.
- 3 Child has no access to or interest in recreational activities. Child has significant difficulties making use of leisure time.

**JOB FUNCTIONING** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 No evidence of any problems in work environment.
- 1 Youth has some mild problems work (e.g. tardiness, conflict).
- 2 Youth has problems at work
- 3 Youth has severe problems at work in terms of attendance, performance or relationships. Youth may have recently lost job.

NA Not applicable. Youth is not currently working nor recently employed

**DEVELOPMENTAL** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Child has no developmental problems.
- 1 Child has some problems with immaturity or there are concerns about possible developmental delay. Child may have low IQ.
- 2 Child has developmental delays or mild mental retardation.
- 3 Child has severe and pervasive developmental delays or profound mental retardation.

**LEGAL** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Child has no known legal difficulties.
- 1 Child has a history of legal problems but currently is not involved with the legal system.
- 2 Child has some legal problems and is currently involved in the legal system.
- 3 Child has serious current or pending legal difficulties that place him/her at risk for a court ordered out of home placement.

**MEDICAL** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Child is healthy.
- 1 Child has some medical problems that require medical treatment.
- 2 Child has chronic illness that requires ongoing medical intervention.
- 3 Child has life threatening illness or medical condition.

**PHYSICAL** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Child has no physical limitations.
- 1 Child has some physical condition that places mild limitations on activities. Conditions such as impaired hearing or vision would be rated here. Rate here, treatable medical conditions that result in physical limitations (e.g. asthma).
- 2 Child has physical condition that notably impacts activities. Sensory disorders such as blindness, deafness, or significant motor difficulties would be rated here.
- 3 Child has severe physical limitations due to multiple physical conditions.

**SEXUALITY** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Child has healthy sexual development.
- 1 Child has some issues with sexual development but these do not interfere with his/her functioning in other life domains.
- 2 Child has problems with sexual development that interfere with his/her functioning in other life domains.
- 3 Child has severe problems with sexual development.

**SLEEP** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Youth gets a full night's sleep each night.
- 1 Youth has some problems sleeping. Generally, youth gets a full night's sleep but at least once a week problems arise. This may include occasionally awakening or bed wetting or having nightmares.
- 2 Youth is having problems with sleep. Sleep is often disrupted and youth seldom obtains a full night of sleep.
- 3 Youth is generally sleep deprived. Sleeping is difficult for the youth and s/he is not able to get a full night's sleep.

**SCHOOL BEHAVIOR** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Child is behaving well in school.
- 1 Child is behaving adequately in school although some behavior problems exist.
- 2 Child is having moderate behavioral problems at school. He/she is disruptive and may have received sanctions including suspensions.
- 3 Child is having severe problems with behavior in school. He/she is frequently or severely disruptive. School placement may be in jeopardy due to behavior.

**SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENT** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Child is doing well in school.
- 1 Child is doing adequately in school although some problems with achievement exist.
- 2 Child is having moderate problems with school achievement. He/she may be failing some subjects.
- 3 Child is having severe achievement problems. He/she may be failing most subjects or more than one year behind same age peers in school achievement.

**SCHOOL ATTENDANCE** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Child attends school regularly.
- 1 Child has some problems attending school but generally goes to school. May miss up to one day per week on average OR may have had moderate to severe problem in the past six months but has been attending school regularly in the past month.
- 2 Child is having problems with school attendance. He/she is missing at least two days each week on average.
- 3 Child is generally truant or refusing to go to school.

## YOUTH STRENGTHS

For **Strengths items** the following action levels are used:

- 0** - indicates a domain where strengths exist that can be used as a centerpiece for a strength-based plan
- 1** - Indicates a domain where strengths exist but require some strength building efforts in order for them to serve as a focus of a strength-based plan.
- 2** - indicates a domain where strengths have been identified but that they require significant strength building efforts before they can be effectively utilized in as a focus of a strength-based plan.
- 3** - indicates a domain in which efforts are needed in order to identify potential strengths for strength building efforts.

**FAMILY** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Family has strong relationships and excellent communication.
- 1 Family has some good relationships and good communication.
- 2 Family needs some assistance in developing relationships and/or communications.
- 3 Family needs significant assistance in developing relationships and communications or child has no identified family.

**INTERPERSONAL** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Child has well-developed interpersonal skills and friends.
- 1 Child has good interpersonal skills and has shown the ability to develop healthy friendships.
- 2 Child needs assistance in developing good interpersonal skills and/or healthy friendships.
- 3 Child needs significant help in developing interpersonal skills and healthy friendships.

**OPTIMISM** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Child has a strong and stable optimistic outlook on his/her life.
- 1 Child is generally optimistic.
- 2 Child has difficulties maintaining a positive view of him/herself and his/her life. Child may vary from overly optimistic to overly pessimistic.
- 3 Child has difficulties seeing *any* positives about him/herself or his/her life.

**EDUCATIONAL** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 School works closely with child and family to identify and successfully address child's educational needs OR child excels in school.
- 1 School works with child and family to identify and address child's educational needs OR child likes school.
- 2 School currently unable to adequately address child's needs.
- 3 School unable and/or unwilling to work to identify and address child's needs.

**VOCATIONAL** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Child has vocational skills and work experience.
- 1 Child has some vocational skills or work experience.
- 2 Child has some prevocational skills.
- 3 Child needs significant assistance developing vocational skills.

**TALENTS/INTEREST** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Child has a talent that provides him/her with pleasure and/or self esteem.
- 1 Child has a talent, interest, or hobby with the potential to provide him/her with pleasure and self esteem.
- 2 Child has identified interests but needs assistance converting those interests into a talent or hobby.
- 3 Child has no identified talents, interests or hobbies.

**SPIRITUAL/RELIGIOUS** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Child receives comfort and support from religious and/or spiritual beliefs and practices.
- 1 Child is involved in a religious community whose members provide support.
- 2 Child has expressed some interest in religious or spiritual belief and practices.
- 3 Child has no identified religious or spiritual beliefs nor interest in these pursuits.

**COMMUNITY LIFE** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Child is well-integrated into his/her community. He/she is a member of community organizations and has positive ties to the community.
- 1 Child is somewhat involved with his/her community.
- 2 Child has an identified community but has only limited ties to that community.
- 3 Child has no identified community to which he/she is a member.

**RELATIONSHIP PERMANENCE** *This rating refers to the stability of significant relationships in the child or youth's life. This likely includes family members but may also include other individuals.*

- 0 This level indicates a child who has very stable relationships. Family members, friends, and community have been stable for most of his/her life and are likely to remain so in the foreseeable future. Child is involved with both parents.
- 1 This level indicates a child who has had stable relationships but there is some concern about instability in the near future (one year) due to transitions, illness, or age. A stable relationship with only one parent may be rated here.
- 2 This level indicates a child who has had at least one stable relationship over his/her lifetime but has experienced other instability through factors such as divorce, moving, removal from home, and death.
- 3 This level indicates a child who does not have any stability in relationships. Independent living or adoption must be considered.

**RESILIENCY** *This rating should be based on the individual's ability to identify and use internal strengths in managing their lives.*

- 0 This level indicates an individual who is able to both identify and use internal strengths to better themselves and successfully manage difficult challenges.
- 1 This level indicates an individual who able to identify most of his/her internal strengths and is able to partially utilize them.
- 2 This level indicates an individual who is able to identify internal strengths but is not able to utilize them effectively.
- 3 This level indicates an individual who is not yet able to identify internal personal strengths.

**RESOURCEFULNESS** *This rating should be based on the individual's ability to identify and use external/environmental strengths in managing their lives.*

- 0 Child is quite skilled at finding the necessary resources required to aid him/her in his/her managing challenges.
- 1 Child is some skills at finding necessary resources required to aid him/her in a healthy lifestyle but sometimes requires assistance at identifying or accessing these resources.
- 2 Child has limited skills at finding necessary resources required to aid in achieving a healthy lifestyle and requires temporary assistance both with identifying and accessing these resources.
- 3 Child has no skills at finding the necessary resources to aid in achieving a healthy lifestyle and requires ongoing assistance with both identifying and accessing these resources.

## ACCULTURATION

**LANGUAGE** *This item includes both spoken and sign language.*

- 0 Child and family speak English well.
- 1 Child and family speak some English but potential communication problems exist due to limits on vocabulary or understanding of the nuances of the language.
- 2 Child and/or significant family members do not speak English. Translator or native language speaker is needed for successful intervention but qualified individual can be identified within natural supports.
- 3 Child and/or significant family members do not speak English. Translator or native language speaker is needed for successful intervention and no such individual is available from among natural supports.

**IDENTITY** *Cultural identity refers to the child's view of his/herself as belonging to a specific cultural group. This cultural group may be defined by a number of factors including race, religion, ethnicity, geography or lifestyle.*

- 0 Child has clear and consistent cultural identity and is connected to others who share his/her cultural identity.
- 1 Child is experiencing some confusion or concern regarding cultural identity.
- 2 Child has significant struggles with his/her own cultural identity. Child may have cultural identity but is not connected with others who share this culture.
- 3 Child has no cultural identity or is experiencing significant problems due to conflict regarding his/her cultural identity.

**RITUAL** *Cultural rituals are activities and traditions that are culturally including the celebration of culturally specific holidays such as kwanza, cinco de mayo, etc. Rituals also may include daily activities that are culturally specific (e.g. praying toward Mecca at specific times, eating a specific diet, access to media).*

- 0 Child and family are consistently able to practice rituals consistent with their cultural identity.
- 1 Child and family are generally able to practice rituals consistent with their cultural identity; however, they sometimes experience some obstacles to the performance of these rituals.
- 2 Child and family experience significant barriers and are sometimes prevented from practicing rituals consistent with their cultural identity.
- 3 Child and family are unable to practice rituals consistent with their cultural identity.

**CULTURAL STRESS** *Cultural stress refers to experiences and feelings of discomfort and/or distress arising from friction (real or perceived) between an individual's own cultural identity and the predominant culture in which he/she lives. This need reflects things such as racism, discrimination, or harassment because of sexual orientation or appearance or background.*

- 0 No evidence of stress between individual's cultural identity and current living situation.
- 1 Some mild or occasional stress resulting from friction between the individual's cultural identity and his/her current living situation.
- 2 Individual is experiencing cultural stress that is causing problems of functioning in at least one life domain.
- 3 Individual is experiencing a high level of cultural stress that is making functioning in any life domain difficult under the present circumstances.



## PERMANENCY CAREGIVER NEEDS & STRENGTHS

### **SUPERVISION** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Caregiver has good monitoring and discipline skills.
- 1 Caregiver provides generally adequate supervision. May need occasional help or technical assistance.
- 2 Caregiver reports difficulties monitoring and/or disciplining child. Caregiver needs assistance to improve supervision skills.
- 3 Caregiver is unable to monitor or discipline the child. Caregiver requires immediate and continuing assistance. Child is at risk of harm due to absence of supervision.

### **INVOLVEMENT** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Caregiver is able to act as an effective advocate for child.
- 1 Caregiver has history of seeking help for their children. Caregiver is open to receiving support, education, and information.
- 2 Caregiver does not wish to participate in services and/or interventions intended to assist their child.
- 3 Caregiver wishes for child to be removed from their care.

### **KNOWLEDGE** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Caregiver is knowledgeable about the child's needs and strengths.
- 1 Caregiver is generally knowledgeable about the child but may require additional information to improve their capacity of parent.
- 2 Caregiver has clear need for information to improve how knowledgeable they are about the child. Current lack of information is interfering with their ability to parent.
- 3 Caregiver has knowledge problems that place the child at risk of significant negative outcomes.

### **ORGANIZATION** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Caregiver is well organized and efficient.
- 1 Caregiver has minimal difficulties with organizing and maintaining household to support needed services. For example, may be forgetful about appointments or occasionally fails to return case manager calls.
- 2 Caregiver has moderate difficulty organizing and maintaining household to support needed services.
- 3 Caregiver is unable to organize household to support needed services.

**SOCIAL RESOURCES** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Caregiver has significant family and friend social network that actively helps with raising the child (e.g., child rearing).
- 1 Caregiver has some family or friend social network that actively helps with raising the child (e.g. child rearing).
- 2 Caregiver has some family or friend social network that may be able to help with raising the child (e.g., child rearing).
- 3 Caregiver no family or social network that may be able to help with raising the child (e.g. child rearing).

**RESIDENTIAL STABILITY** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Caregiver has stable housing for the foreseeable future.
- 1 Caregiver has relatively stable housing but either has moved in the past three months or there are indications of housing problems that might force them to move in the next three months.
- 2 Caregiver has moved multiple times in the past year. Housing is unstable.
- 3 Caregiver has experienced periods of homelessness in the past six months.

**PHYSICAL** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Caregiver is generally healthy.
- 1 Caregiver is in recovery from medical/physical problems.
- 2 Caregiver has medical/physical problems that interfere with their capacity to parent.
- 3 Caregiver has medical/physical problems that make it impossible for them to parent at this time.

**MENTAL HEALTH** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Caregiver has no mental health needs.
- 1 Caregiver is in recovery from mental health difficulties.
- 2 Caregiver has some mental health difficulties that interfere with their capacity to parent.
- 3 Caregiver has mental health use difficulties that make it impossible for them to parent at this time.

**SUBSTANCE USE** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Caregiver has no substance use needs.
- 1 Caregiver is in recovery from substance use difficulties.
- 2 Caregiver has some substance use difficulties that interfere with their capacity to parent.
- 3 Caregiver has substance use difficulties that make it impossible for them to parent at this time.

**DEVELOPMENTAL** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Caregiver has no developmental needs.
- 1 Caregiver has developmental challenges but they do not currently interfere with parenting.
- 2 Caregiver has developmental challenges that interfere with their capacity to parent.
- 3 Caregiver has severe developmental challenges that make it impossible for them to parent at this time.

**SAFETY** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Household is safe and secure. Child is at no risk from others.
- 1 Household is safe but concerns exist about the safety of the child due to history or others in the neighborhood who might be abusive.
- 2 Child is in some danger from one or more individuals with access to the household.
- 3 Child is in immediate danger from one or more individuals with unsupervised access.

## **CHILD BEHAVIORAL/EMOTIONAL NEEDS**

**PSYCHOSIS** *Please rate based on the past 30 days*

- 0 No evidence.
- 1 History or suspicion of hallucinations, delusions or bizarre behavior that might be associated with some form of psychotic disorder.
- 2 Clear evidence of hallucinations, delusions or bizarre behavior that might be associated with some form of psychotic disorder.
- 3 Clear evidence of dangerous hallucinations, delusions, or bizarre behavior that might be associated with some form of psychotic disorder which places the child or others at risk of physical harm.

**IMPULSIVITY/HYPERACTIVITY** *Please rate based on the past 30 days*

- 0 No evidence.
- 1 Some problems with impulsive, distractible or hyperactive behavior that places the child at risk of future functioning difficulties.
- 2 Clear evidence of problems with impulsive, distractible, or hyperactive behavior that interferes with the child’s ability to function in at least one life domain.
- 3 Clear evidence of a dangerous level of impulsive behavior that can place the child at risk of physical harm.

**DEPRESSION** *Please rate based on the past 30 days*

- 0 No evidence.
- 1 History or suspicion of depression or mild to moderate depression associated with a recent negative life event with minimal impact on life domain functioning.
- 2 Clear evidence of depression associated with either depressed mood or significant irritability. Depression has interfered significantly in child’s ability to function in at least one life domain.
- 3 Clear evidence of disabling level of depression that makes it virtually impossible for the child to function in any life domain.

**ANXIETY** *Please rate based on the past 30 days*

- 0 No evidence.
- 1 History or suspicion of anxiety problems or mild to moderate anxiety associated with a recent negative life event.
- 2 Clear evidence of anxiety associated with either anxious mood or significant fearfulness. Anxiety has interfered significantly in child’s ability to function in at least one life domain.
- 3 Clear evidence of debilitating level of anxiety that makes it virtually impossible for the child to function in any life domain.

**OPPOSITIONAL** *Please rate based on the past 30 days*

- 0 No evidence.
- 1 History or recent onset (past 6 weeks) of defiance towards authority figures.
- 2 Clear evidence of oppositional and/or defiant behavior towards authority figures, which is currently interfering with the child’s functioning in at least one life domain. Behavior causes emotional harm to others.
- 3 Clear evidence of a dangerous level of oppositional behavior involving the threat of physical harm to others.

**CONDUCT** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 No evidence.
- 1 History or suspicion of problems associated with antisocial behavior including but not limited to lying, stealing, manipulating others, sexual aggression, violence towards people, property or animals.
- 2 Clear evidence of antisocial behavior including but not limited to lying, stealing, manipulating others, sexual aggression, violence towards people, property, or animals.
- 3 Evidence of a severe level of conduct problems as described above that places the child or community at significant risk of physical harm due to these behaviors.

**ADJUSTMENT TO TRAUMA** *Please rate based on the past 30 days*

- 0 No evidence.
- 1 History or suspicion of problems associated with traumatic life event/s.
- 2 Clear evidence of adjustment problems associated with traumatic life event/s. Adjustment is interfering with child’s functioning in at least one life domain.
- 3 Clear evidence of symptoms of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, which may include flashbacks, nightmares, significant anxiety, and intrusive thoughts of trauma experience.

**ANGER CONTROL** *Please rate based on the past 30 days*

- 0 No evidence of any significant anger control problems.
- 1 Some problems with controlling anger. Child may sometimes become verbally aggressive when frustrated. Peers and family may be aware of and may attempt to avoid stimulating angry outbursts.
- 2 Moderate anger control problems. Child’s temper has gotten him/her in significant trouble with peers, family and/or school. Anger may be associated with physical violence. Others are likely quite aware of anger potential.
- 3 Severe anger control problems. Child’s temper is likely associated with frequent fighting that is often physical. Others likely fear him/her.

**SUBSTANCE USE** *Please rate the highest level from the **past 30 days***

- 0 No evidence.
- 1 History or suspicion of substance use.
- 2 Clear evidence of substance abuse that interferes with functioning in any life domain.
- 3 Child requires detoxification OR is addicted to alcohol and/or drugs. Include here a child/youth who is intoxicated at the time of the assessment (i.e., currently under the influence).

## CHILD RISK BEHAVIORS

**SUICIDE RISK** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 No evidence.
- 1 History but no recent ideation or gesture.
- 2 Recent ideation or gesture but not in past 24 hours.
- 3 Current ideation and intent OR command hallucinations that involve self-harm.

**SELF-MUTILATION** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 No evidence.
- 1 History of self-mutilation.
- 2 Engaged in self mutilation that does not require medical attention.
- 3 Engaged in self mutilation that requires medical attention.

**OTHER SELF HARM** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 No evidence of behaviors other than suicide or self-mutilation that place the child at risk of physical harm.
- 1 History of behavior other than suicide or self-mutilation that places child at risk of physical harm. This includes reckless and risk-taking behavior that may endanger the child.
- 2 Engaged in behavior other than suicide or self-mutilation that places him/her in danger of physical harm. This includes reckless behavior or intentional risk-taking behavior.
- 3 Engaged in behavior other than suicide or self-mutilation that places him/her at immediate risk of death. This includes reckless behavior or intentional risk-taking behavior.

**DANGER TO OTHERS** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 No evidence.
- 1 History of homicidal ideation, physically harmful aggression or fire setting that has put self or others in danger of harm.
- 2 Recent homicidal ideation, physically harmful aggression, or dangerous fire setting but not in past 24 hours.
- 3 Acute homicidal ideation with a plan or physically harmful aggression OR command hallucinations that involve the harm of others. Or, child set a fire that placed others at significant risk of harm.

**SEXUAL AGGRESSION** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 No evidence of any history of sexually aggressive behavior. No sexual activity with younger children, nonconsenting others, or children not able to understand consent.
- 1 History of sexually aggressive behavior (but not in past year) OR sexually inappropriate behavior in the past year that troubles others such as harassing talk or excessive masturbation.
- 2 Child is engaged in sexually aggressive behavior in the past year but not in the past 30 days.
- 3 Child has engaged in sexually aggressive behavior in the past 30 days.

**RUNAWAY** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 No evidence.
- 1 History of runaway from home or other settings involving at least one overnight absence, at least 30 days ago.
- 2 Recent runaway behavior or ideation but not in past 7 days.
- 3 Acute threat to runaway as manifest by either recent attempts OR significant ideation about running away OR child is currently a runaway.

**DELINQUENCY** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 No evidence.
- 1 History of delinquency but no acts of delinquency in past 30 days.
- 2 Recent acts of delinquency.
- 3 Severe acts of delinquency that places others at risk of significant loss or injury or place child at risk of adult sanctions.

**JUDGMENT** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 No evidence of problems with judgment or poor decision making that result harm to development and/or well-being.
- 1 History of problems with judgment in which the child makes decisions that are in some way harmful to his/her development and/or well-being. For example, a child who has a history of hanging out with other children who shoplift.
- 2 Problems with judgment in which the child makes decisions that are in some way harmful to his/her development and/or well-being.
- 3 Problems with judgment that place the child at risk of significant physical harm.

**FIRE SETTING** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 No evidence.
- 1 History of fire setting but not in the past six months.
- 2 Recent fire setting behavior (in past six months) but not of the type that has endangered the lives of others OR repeated fire-setting behavior over a period of at least two years even if not in the past six months.
- 3 Acute threat of fire setting. Set fire that endangered the lives of others (e.g. attempting to burn down a house).



**INTENTIONAL MISBEHAVIOR** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 No evidence of problematic social behavior. Child does not engage in behavior that forces adults to sanction him/her.
- 1 Mild level of problematic social behavior. This might include occasional inappropriate social behavior that forces adults to sanction the child. Infrequent inappropriate comments to strangers or unusual behavior in social settings might be included in this level.
- 2 Moderate level of problematic social behavior. Social behavior is causing problems in the child's life. Child may be intentionally getting in trouble in school or at home.
- 3 Severe level of problematic social behavior. This level would be indicated by frequent serious social behavior that forces adults to seriously and/or repeatedly sanction the child. Social behaviors are sufficiently severe that they place the child at risk of significant sanctions (e.g. expulsion, removal from the community).

**MODULES**

Developmental Needs  
Current Caregiver  
Trauma  
Substance Use  
Violence  
Sexually Aggressive Behavior  
Runaway  
Juvenile Justice

## DEVELOPMENTAL NEEDS

### **COGNITIVE** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Child's intellectual functioning appears to be in normal range. There is no reason to believe that the child has any problems with intellectual functioning.
- 1 Child has low IQ (70 to 85) or has identified learning challenges.
- 2 Child has mild mental retardation. IQ is between 55 and 70.
- 3 Child has moderate to profound mental retardation. IQ is less than 55.

### **AUTISM SPECTRUM** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days.*

- 0 Child's development appears within normal range. There is no reason to believe that the child has any developmental problems associated within the autism spectrum.
- 1 Evidence of mild symptoms of an autism spectrum disorder. Child/youth may meet criteria for Asperger's disorder.
- 2 Child meets diagnostic criteria for an autism spectrum disorder.
- 3 Severe autism. Symptoms are disabling in at least one life domain.

### **COMMUNICATION** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Child's receptive and expressive communication appears developmentally appropriate. There is no reason to believe that the child has any problems communicating.
- 1 Child has receptive communication skills but limited expressive communication skills.
- 2 Child has both limited receptive and expressive communication skills.
- 3 Child is unable to communicate.

### **SELF-CARE DAILY LIVING SKILLS** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Child's self-care and daily living skills appear developmentally appropriate. There is no reason to believe that the child has any problems performing daily living skills.
- 1 Child requires verbal prompting on self-care tasks or daily living skills.
- 2 Child requires assistance (physical prompting) on self-care tasks or attendant care on one self-care task (e.g. eating, bathing, dressing, and toileting).
- 3 Child requires attendant care on more than one of the self-care tasks-eating, bathing, dressing, toileting.

## CURRENT CAREGIVER

**SUPERVISION** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 4 Caregiver has good monitoring and discipline skills.
- 5 Caregiver provides generally adequate supervision. May need occasional help or technical assistance.
- 6 Caregiver reports difficulties monitoring and/or disciplining child. Caregiver needs assistance to improve supervision skills.
- 7 Caregiver is unable to monitor or discipline the child. Caregiver requires immediate and continuing assistance. Child is at risk of harm due to absence of supervision.

**INVOLVEMENT** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 4 Caregiver is able to act as an effective advocate for child.
- 5 Caregiver has history of seeking help for their children. Caregiver is open to receiving support, education, and information.
- 6 Caregiver does not wish to participate in services and/or interventions intended to assist their child.
- 7 Caregiver wishes for child to be removed from their care.

**KNOWLEDGE** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 4 Caregiver is knowledgeable about the child's needs and strengths.
- 5 Caregiver is generally knowledgeable about the child but may require additional information to improve their capacity of parent.
- 6 Caregiver has clear need for information to improve how knowledgeable they are about the child. Current lack of information is interfering with their ability to parent.
- 7 Caregiver has knowledge problems that place the child at risk of significant negative outcomes.

**ORGANIZATION** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 4 Caregiver is well organized and efficient.
- 5 Caregiver has minimal difficulties with organizing and maintaining household to support needed services. For example, may be forgetful about appointments or occasionally fails to return case manager calls.
- 6 Caregiver has moderate difficulty organizing and maintaining household to support needed services.
- 7 Caregiver is unable to organize household to support needed services.

**SOCIAL RESOURCES** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 4 Caregiver has significant family and friend social network that actively helps with raising the child (e.g., child rearing).
- 5 Caregiver has some family or friend social network that actively helps with raising the child (e.g. child rearing).
- 6 Caregiver has some family or friend social network that may be able to help with raising the child (e.g., child rearing).
- 7 Caregiver no family or social network that may be able to help with raising the child (e.g. child rearing).

**RESIDENTIAL STABILITY** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 4 Caregiver has stable housing for the foreseeable future.
- 5 Caregiver has relatively stable housing but either has moved in the past three months or there are indications of housing problems that might force them to move in the next three months.
- 6 Caregiver has moved multiple times in the past year. Housing is unstable.
- 7 Caregiver has experienced periods of homelessness in the past six months.

**PHYSICAL** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 4 Caregiver is generally healthy.
- 5 Caregiver is in recovery from medical/physical problems.
- 6 Caregiver has medical/physical problems that interfere with their capacity to parent.
- 7 Caregiver has medical/physical problems that make it impossible for them to parent at this time.

**MENTAL HEALTH** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 4 Caregiver has no mental health needs.
- 5 Caregiver is in recovery from mental health difficulties.
- 6 Caregiver has some mental health difficulties that interfere with their capacity to parent.
- 7 Caregiver has mental health use difficulties that make it impossible for them to parent at this time.

**SUBSTANCE USE** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 4 Caregiver has no substance use needs.
- 5 Caregiver is in recovery from substance use difficulties.
- 6 Caregiver has some substance use difficulties that interfere with their capacity to parent.
- 7 Caregiver has substance use difficulties that make it impossible for them to parent at this time.

**DEVELOPMENTAL** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 4 Caregiver has no developmental needs.
- 5 Caregiver has developmental challenges but they do not currently interfere with parenting.
- 6 Caregiver has developmental challenges that interfere with their capacity to parent.
- 7 Caregiver has severe developmental challenges that make it impossible for them to parent at this time.

**SAFETY** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 4 Household is safe and secure. Child is at no risk from others.
- 5 Household is safe but concerns exist about the safety of the child due to history or others in the neighborhood who might be abusive.
- 6 Child is in some danger from one or more individuals with access to the household.
- 7 Child is in immediate danger from one or more individuals with unsupervised access.

## TRAUMA

### **SEXUAL ABUSE** *Please rate within the lifetime\**

- 0 There is no evidence that child has experienced sexual abuse.
- 1 Child has experienced one episode of sexual abuse or there is a suspicion that child has experienced sexual abuse but no confirming evidence.
- 2 Child has experienced repeated sexual abuse.
- 3 Child has experienced severe and repeated sexual abuse. Sexual abuse may have caused physical harm.

### **PHYSICAL ABUSE** *Please rate within the lifetime*

- 0 There is no evidence that child has experienced physical abuse.
- 1 Child has experienced one episode of physical abuse or there is a suspicion that child has experienced physical abuse but no confirming evidence.
- 2 Child has experienced repeated physical abuse.
- 3 Child has experienced severe and repeated physical abuse that causes sufficient physical harm to necessitate hospital treatment.

### **NEGLECT** *Please rate within the lifetime.*

- 0 There is no evidence that child has experienced neglect.
- 1 Child has experienced minor or occasional neglect. Child may have been left at home alone with no adult supervision or there may be occasional failure to provide adequate supervision of child.
- 2 Child has experienced a moderate level of neglect. This may include occasional unintended failure to provide adequate food, shelter, or clothing with corrective action.
- 3 Child has experienced a severe level of neglect including prolonged absences by adults, without minimal supervision, and failure to provide basic necessities of life on a regular basis.

### **EMOTIONAL ABUSE** *Please rate within the lifetime*

- 0 There is no evidence that child has experienced emotional abuse.
- 1 Child has experienced mild emotional abuse.
- 2 Child has experienced emotional abuse over an extended period of time (at least one year).
- 3 Child has experienced severe and repeated emotional abuse over an extended period of time (at least one year).

### **MEDICAL TRAUMA** *Please rate within the lifetime*

- 0 There is no evidence that child has experienced any medical trauma.
- 1 Child has experienced mild medical trauma including minor surgery (e.g. stitches, bone setting).
- 2 Child has experienced moderate medical trauma including major surgery or injuries requiring hospitalization.
- 3 Child has experienced life threatening medical trauma.

**NATURAL DISASTER** *Please rate within the lifetime*

- 0 There is no evidence that child has experienced any natural disaster.
- 1 Child has been indirectly affected by a natural disaster.
- 2 Child has experienced a natural disaster which has had a notable impact on his/her well-being.
- 3 Child has experienced life threatening natural disaster.

**WITNESS TO FAMILY VIOLENCE** *Please rate within the lifetime*

- 0 There is no evidence that child has witnessed family violence.
- 1 Child has witnessed one episode of family violence.
- 2 Child has witnessed repeated episodes of family violence but no significant injuries (i.e. requiring emergency medical attention) have been witnessed.
- 3 Child has witnessed repeated and severe episodes of family violence. Significant injuries have occurred as a direct result of the violence.

**WITNESS TO COMMUNITY VIOLENCE** *Please rate within the lifetime*

- 0 There is no evidence that child has witnessed violence in the community.
- 1 Child has witnessed fighting or other forms of violence in the community.
- 2 Child has witnessed the significant injury of others in his/her community.
- 3 Child has witnessed the death of another person in his/her community.

**WITNESS/VICTIM TO CRIMINAL ACTIVITY** *Please rate within the lifetime*

- 0 There is no evidence that child has been victimized or witness significant criminal activity.
- 1 Child is a witness of significant criminal activity.
- 2 Child is a direct victim of criminal activity or witnessed the victimization of a family or friend.
- 3 Child is a victim of criminal activity that was life threatening or caused significant physical harm or child witnessed the death of a loved one.

**\*If a child has been sexually abused:**

**EMOTIONAL CLOSENESS TO PERPETRATOR**

- 0 Perpetrator was a stranger at the time of the abuse.
- 1 Perpetrator was known to the child at the time of event but only as an acquaintance.
- 2 Perpetrator had a close relationship with the child at the time of the event but was not an immediate family member.
- 3 Perpetrator was an immediate family member (e.g. parent, sibling).

**FREQUENCY OF ABUSE**

- 0 Abuse occurred only one time.
- 1 Abuse occurred two times.
- 2 Abuse occurred two to ten times.
- 3 Abuse occurred more than ten times.



**DURATION**

- 0 Abuse occurred only one time.
- 1 Abuse occurred within a six month time period.
- 2 Abuse occurred within a six-month to one year time period.
- 3 Abuse occurred over a period of longer than one year.

**FORCE**

- 0 No physical force or threat of force occurred during the abuse episode(s).
- 1 Sexual abuse was associated with threat of violence but no physical force.
- 2 Physical force was used during the sexual abuse.
- 3 Significant physical force/violence was used during the sexual abuse. Physical injuries occurred as a result of the force.

**REACTION TO DISCLOSURE**

- 0 All significant family members are aware of the abuse and supportive of the child coming forward with the description of his/her abuse experience.
- 1 Most significant family members are aware of the abuse and supportive of the child for coming forward. One or two family members may be less supportive. Parent may be experiencing anxiety/depression/guilt regarding abuse.
- 2 Significant split among family members in terms of their support of the child for coming forward with the description of his/her experience.
- 3 Significant lack of support from close family members of the child for coming forward with the description of his/her abuse experience. Significant relationship (e.g. parent, care-giving grandparent) is threatened.

**Adjustment**

**AFFECT REGULATION** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Child has no problems with affect regulation.
- 1 Child has mild to moderate problems with affect regulation.
- 2 Child has severe problems with affect regulation but is able to control affect at times. Problems with affect regulation interfere with child’s functioning in some life domains.
- 3 Child unable to regulate affect.

**INTRUSIONS** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 There is no evidence that child experiences intrusive thoughts of trauma.
- 1 Child experiences some intrusive thoughts of trauma but they do not affect his/her functioning.
- 2 Child experiences intrusive thoughts that interfere in his/her ability to function in some life domains.
- 3 Child experiences repeated and severe intrusive thoughts of trauma.

**ATTACHMENT** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 No evidence of attachment problems. Parent-child relationship is characterized by satisfaction of needs, child's development of a sense of security and trust.
- 1 Mild problems with attachment. This could involve either mild problems with separation or mild problems of detachment.
- 2 Moderate problems with attachment. Child is having problems with attachment that require intervention. A child who meets the criteria for an Attachment Disorder in DSM-IV would be rated here.
- 3 Severe problems with attachment. A child who is unable to separate or a child who appears to have severe problems with forming or maintaining relationships with caregivers would be rated here.

**DISSOCIATION** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 There is no evidence of dissociation.
- 1 Child may experience some symptoms of dissociation.
- 2 Child clearly experiences episodes of dissociation.
- 3 Profound dissociation occurs.

**SUBSTANCE USE**

**SEVERITY OF USE** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Child is currently abstinent and has maintained abstinence for at least six months.
- 1 Child is currently abstinent but only in the past 30 days or child has been abstinent for more than 30 days but is living in an environment that makes substance use difficult.
- 2 Child actively uses alcohol or drugs but not daily.
- 3 Child uses alcohol and/or drugs on a daily basis.

**DURATION OF USE** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Child has begun use in the past year.
- 1 Child has been using alcohol or drugs for at least one year but has had periods of at least 30 days where he/she did not have any use.
- 2 Child has been using alcohol or drugs for at least one year (but less than five years), but not daily.
- 3 Child has been using alcohol or drugs daily for more than the past year or intermittently for at least five years.

**STAGE OF RECOVERY** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Child is in maintenance stage of recovery. Youth is abstinent and able to recognize and avoid risk factors for future alcohol or drug use.
- 1 Child is actively trying to use treatment to remain abstinent.
- 2 Child is in contemplation phase, recognizing a problem but not willing to take steps for recovery.
- 3 Child is in denial regarding the existence of any substance use problem.

**PEER INFLUENCES** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Youth's primary peer social network does not engage in alcohol or drug use.
- 1 Youth has peers in his/her primary peer social network who do not engage in alcohol or drug use but has some peers who do.
- 2 Youth predominantly has peers who engage in alcohol or drug use but youth is not a member of a gang.
- 3 Youth is a member of a peer group that consistently engages in alcohol or drug use.

**PARENTAL INFLUENCES** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 There is no evidence that youth's parents have ever engaged in substance abuse.
- 1 One of youth's parents has history of substance abuse but not in the past year.
- 2 One or both of youth's parents have been intoxicated with alcohol or drugs in the presence of the youth.
- 3 One or both of youth's parents use alcohol or drugs with the youth.

**ENVIRONMENTAL INFLUENCES** *Please rate the environment around the youth's living situation*

- 0 No evidence that the child's environment stimulates or exposes the child to any alcohol or drug use.
- 1 Mild problems in the child's environment that might expose the child to alcohol or drug use.
- 2 Moderate problems in the child's environment that clearly expose the child to alcohol or drug use.
- 3 Severe problems in the child's environment that stimulate the child to engage in alcohol or drug.

**VIOLENCE**  
**Historical Risk Factors**

*Historical risk factors are rated over the lifetime of the youth.*

**HISTORY OF PHYSICAL ABUSE**

- 0 No evidence of a history of physical abuse.
- 1 Youth has experienced corporal punishment.
- 2 Youth has experienced physical abuse on one or more occasions from care giver or parent.
- 3 Youth has experienced extreme physical abuse that has resulted in physical injuries that required medical care.

**HISTORY OF VIOLENCE**

- 0 No evidence of any history of violent behavior by the youth.
- 1 Youth has engaged in mild forms of violent behavior including vandalism, minor destruction of property, physical fights in which no one was injured (e.g. shoving, wrestling).
- 2 Youth has engaged in moderate forms of violent behavior including fights in which participants were injured. Cruelty to animals would be rated here unless it resulted in significant injury or death of the animal.
- 3 Youth has initiated unprovoked violent behaviors on other people that resulted in injuries to these people. Cruelty to animals that resulted in significant injury or death to the animal would be rated here.

**WITNESS TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

- 0 No evidence that youth has witnessed domestic violence.
- 1 Youth has witnessed physical violence in household on at least one occasion but the violence did not result in injury.
- 2 Youth has witnessed repeated domestic violence that has resulted in the injury of at least one family member that required medical treatment.
- 3 Youth has witness to murder or rape of a family member

**WITNESS TO ENVIRONMENTAL VIOLENCE**

- 0 No evidence that youth has witnessed violence in his/her environment and does not watch an excessive amount of violent media.
- 1 Youth has not witness violence in her environment and but watches an excessive amount of violent media including movies and video games.
- 2 Youth has witnessed at least one occasion of violence in his/her environment.
- 3 Youth has witnessed a murder or rape.

**FRUSTRATION MANAGEMENT**

- 0 Youth appears to be able to manage frustration well. No evidence of problems of frustration management.
- 1 Youth has some mild problems with frustration. He/she may anger easily when frustrated; however, he/she is able to calm self down following an angry outburst.
- 2 Youth has problems managing frustration. His/her anger when frustrated is causing functioning problems in school, at home, or with peers.
- 3 Youth becomes explosive and dangerous to others when frustrated. He/she demonstrates little self control in these situations and others must intervene to restore control.

**HOSTILITY**

- 0 Youth appears to not experience or express hostility except in situations where most people would become hostile.
- 1 Youth appears hostile but does not express it. Others experience youth as being angry.
- 2 Youth expresses hostility regularly.
- 3 Youth is almost always hostile either in expression or appearance. Others may experience youth as ‘full of rage’ or ‘seething’.

**PARANOID THINKING**

- 0 Youth does not appear to engage in any paranoid thinking.
- 1 Youth is suspicious of others but is able to test out these suspicions and adjust their thinking appropriately.
- 2 Youth believes that others are ‘out to get’ him/her. Youth has trouble accepting that these beliefs may not be accurate. Youth at times is suspicious and guarded but at other times can be open and friendly.
- 3 Youth believes that others plan to cause them harm. Youth is nearly always suspicious and guarded.

**SECONDARY GAINS FROM ANGER**

- 0 Youth either does not engage in angry behavior or, when they do become angry, does not appear to derive any benefits from this behavior.
- 1 Youth unintentionally has benefited from angry behavior; however, there is no evidence that youth intentionally uses angry behavior to achieve desired outcomes.
- 2 Youth sometimes uses angry behavior to achieve desired outcomes with parents, caregivers, teachers, or peers.
- 3 Youth routinely uses angry behavior to achieve desired outcomes with parents, caregivers, teachers or peers. Others in youth’s life appear intimidated.

**VIOLENT THINKING**

- 0 There is no evidence that youth engages in violent thinking.
- 1 Youth has some occasional or minor thoughts about violence.
- 2 Youth has violent ideation. Language is often characterized as having violent themes and problem solving often refers to violent outcomes.
- 3 Youth has specific homicidal ideation or appears obsessed with thoughts about violence. For example, a youth who spontaneously and frequently draws only violent images may be rated here.

**Resiliency Factors**

*Resiliency Factors are rated based on the past 30 days.*

**AWARENESS OF VIOLENCE POTENTIAL**

- 0 Youth is completely aware of his/her level of risk of violence. Youth knows and understands risk factors. Youth accepts responsibility for past and future behaviors. Youth is able to anticipate future challenging circumstances. A youth with no violence potential would be rated here.
- 1 Youth is generally aware of his/her potential for violence. Youth is knowledgeable about his/her risk factors and is generally able to take responsibility. Youth may be unable to anticipate future circumstances that may challenge him/her.
- 2 Youth has some awareness of his/her potential for violence. Youth may have tendency to blame others but is able to accept some responsibility for his/her actions.
- 3 Youth has no awareness of his/her potential for violence. Youth may deny past violent acts or explain them in terms of justice or as deserved by the victim.

**RESPONSE TO CONSEQUENCES**

- 0 Youth is clearly and predictably responsive to identified consequences. Youth is regularly able to anticipate consequences and adjust behavior.
- 1 Youth is generally responsive to identified consequences; however, not all appropriate consequences have been identified or he/she may sometimes fail to anticipate consequences.
- 2 Youth responds to consequences on some occasions but sometimes does not appear to care about consequences for his/her violent behavior.
- 3 Youth is unresponsive to consequences for his/her violent behavior.

**COMMITMENT TO SELF CONTROL**

- 0 Youth fully committed to controlling his/her violent behavior.
- 1 Youth is generally committed to control his/her violent behavior; however, youth may continue to struggle with control in some challenging circumstances.
- 2 Youth ambivalent about controlling his/her violent behavior.
- 3 Youth not interested in controlling his/her violent behavior at this time.

**TREATMENT INVOLVEMENT**

- 0 Youth fully involved in his/her own treatment. Family supports treatment as well.
- 1 Youth or family involved in treatment but not both. Youth may be somewhat involved in treatment, while family members are active or youth may be very involved in treatment while family members are unsupportive.
- 2 Youth and family are ambivalent about treatment involvement. Youth and/or family may be skeptical about treatment effectiveness or suspicious about clinician intentions.
- 3 Youth and family are uninterested in treatment involvement. A youth with treatment needs who is not currently in treatment would be rated here.

## SEXUALLY AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR

### **RELATIONSHIP** *Please rate the most recent episode of sexual behavior*

- 0 No evidence of victimizing others. All parties in sexual activity appear to be consenting. No power differential.
- 1 Although parties appear to be consenting, there is a significant power differential between parties in the sexual activity with this child or adolescent being in the position of authority.
- 2 Child is clearly victimizing at least one other individual with sexually abusive behavior.
- 3 Child is severely victimizing at least one other individual with sexually abusive behavior. This may include physical harm that results from either the sexual behavior or physical force associated with sexual behavior.

### **PHYSICAL FORCE/THREAT** *Please rate the highest level from the most recent episode of sexual behavior*

- 0 No evidence of the use of any physical force or threat of force in either the commission of the sex act nor in attempting to hide it.
- 1 Evidence of the use of the threat of force in an attempt to discourage the victim from reporting the sex act.
- 2 Evidence of the use of mild to moderate force in the sex act. There is some physical harm or risk of physical harm.
- 3 Evidence of severe physical force in the commission of the sex act. Victim harmed or at risk for physical harm from the use of force.

### **PLANNING** *Please rate the highest level from the most recent episode of sexual behavior*

- 0 No evidence of any planning. Sexual activity appears entirely opportunistic.
- 1 Some evidence of efforts to get into situations where likelihood of opportunities for sexual activity are enhanced.
- 2 Evidence of some planning of sex act.
- 3 Considerable evidence of predatory sexual behavior in which victim is identified prior to the act, and the act is premeditated.

### **AGE DIFFERENTIAL** *Please rate the highest level from the most recent episode of sexual behavior*

- 0 Ages of the perpetrator and victim and/or participants essentially equivalent (less than 3 years apart).
- 1 Age differential between perpetrator and victim and/or participants is 3 to 4 years.
- 2 Age differential between perpetrator and victim at least 5 years, but perpetrator less than 13 years old.
- 3 Age differential between perpetrator and victim at least 5 years and perpetrator 13 years old or older.



**TYPE OF SEX ACT** *Please rate the highest level from the most recent episode of sexual behavior*

- 0 Sex act(s) involve touching or fondling only.
- 1 Sex act(s) involve fondling plus possible penetration with fingers or oral sex.
- 2 Sex act(s) involve penetration into genitalia or anus with body part.
- 3 Sex act involves physically dangerous penetration due to differential size or use of an object.

**RESPONSE TO ACCUSATION** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Child admits to behavior and expresses remorse and desire to not repeat.
- 1 Child partially admits to behaviors and expresses some remorse.
- 2 Child admits to behavior but does not express remorse.
- 3 Child neither admits to behavior nor expresses remorse. Child is in complete denial.

**TEMPORAL CONSISTENCY**

- 0 This level indicates a child who has never exhibited sexually abusive behavior or who has developed this behavior only in the past three months following a clear stressor.
- 1 This level indicates a child who has been sexually abusive during the past two years OR child who has become sexually abusive in the past three months despite the absence of any clear stressors.
- 2 This level indicates a child who has been sexually abusive for an extended period of time (e.g. more than two years), but who has had significant symptom-free periods.
- 3 This level indicates a child who has been sexually abusive for an extended period of time (e.g. more than two years) without significant symptom-free periods.

**HISTORY OF SEXUALLY AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR** (toward others)

- 0 Child or adolescent has only one incident of sexually abusive behavior that has been identified and/or investigated.
- 1 Child or adolescent has two or three incidents of sexually abusive behavior that have been identified and/or investigated.
- 2 Child or adolescent has four to ten incidents of sexually abusive behavior that have been identified and/or investigated with more than one victim.
- 3 Child or adolescent has more than ten incidents of sexually abusive behavior with more than one victim.

**SEVERITY OF SEXUAL ABUSE**

- 0 No history of any form of sexual abuse.
- 1 History of occasional fondling or being touched inappropriately, however, not occurring on a regular basis or by someone in a caregiver capacity or suspicion of history of sexual abuse without confirming evidence.
- 2 This level is to indicate a moderate level of sexual abuse. This may involve a child who has been fondled on an ongoing basis or sexually penetrated (anal or genital) once by someone not in a caregiver capacity.
- 3 This level is to indicate a severe level of sexual abuse involving penetration on an ongoing basis by someone either in a caregiver capacity or in close emotional relation to the child.

**PRIOR TREATMENT**

- 0 No history of prior treatment or history of outpatient treatment with notable positive outcomes.
- 1 History of outpatient treatment which has had some degree of success.
- 2 History residential treatment where there has been successful completion of program.
- 3 History of residential or outpatient treatment condition with little or no success.

## **RUNAWAY MODULE**

### **FREQUENCY OF RUNNING**

- 0 Youth has only run once in past year.
- 1 Youth has run on multiple occasions in past year.
- 2 Youth runs run often but not always.
- 3 Youth runs at every opportunity.

### **CONSISTENCY OF DESTINATION**

- 0 Youth always runs to the same location.
- 1 Youth generally runs to the same location or neighborhood.
- 2 Youth runs to the same community but the specific locations change.
- 3 Youth runs to no planned destination.

### **PLANNING**

- 0 Running behavior is completely spontaneous and emotionally impulsive.
- 1 Running behavior is somewhat planned but not carefully.
- 2 Running behavior is planned.
- 3 Running behavior is carefully planned and orchestrated to maximize likelihood of not being found.

### **SAFETY OF DESTINATION**

- 0 Youth runs to a safe environment that meets his/hers basic needs (e.g. food, shelter).
- 1 Youth runs to generally safe environments; however, they might be somewhat unstable or variable.
- 2 Youth runs to generally unsafe environments that cannot meet his/her basic needs.
- 3 Youth runs to very unsafe environments where the likelihood that he/she will be victimized is high.

### **INVOLVEMENT IN ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES**

- 0 Youth does not engage in illegal activities while on run beyond those involved with the running itself.
- 1 Youth engages in status offenses beyond those involved with the running itself while on run (e.g. curfew violations, underage drinking).
- 2 Youth engages in delinquent activities while on run.
- 3 Youth engages in dangerous delinquent activities while on run (e.g. prostitution)

**LIKELIHOOD OF RETURN ON OWN**

- 0 Youth will return from run on his/her own without prompting.
- 1 Youth will return from run when found but not without being found.
- 2 Youth will make him/her difficult to find and/or might passively resist return once found.
- 3 Youth makes repeated and concerted efforts to hide so as to not be found and/or resists return.

**INVOLVEMENT WITH OTHERS**

- 0 Youth runs by self with no involvement of others. Others may discourage behavior or encourage youth to return from run.
- 1 Others enable youth running by not discouraging youth's behavior.
- 2 Others involved in running by providing help youth not be found.
- 3 Youth actively is encouraged to run by others. Others actively cooperate to facilitate running behavior.

**REALISTIC EXPECTATIONS**

- 0 Youth has realistic expectations about the implications of his/her running behavior.
- 1 Youth has reasonable expectations about the implications of his/her running behavior but may be hoping for a somewhat 'optimistic' outcome.
- 2 Youth has unrealistic expectations about the implications of their running behavior.
- 3 Youth has obviously false or delusional expectations about the implications of their running behavior.

## JUVENILE JUSTICE

**SERIOUSNESS** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Youth has engaged only in status violations (e.g. curfew).
- 1 Youth has engaged in delinquent behavior.
- 2 Youth has engaged in criminal behavior.
- 3 Youth has engaged in delinquent criminal behavior that places other citizens at risk of significant physical harm.

**HISTORY** *Please rate using time frames provided in the anchors*

- 0 Current criminal behavior is the first known occurrence.
- 1 Youth has engaged in multiple delinquent acts in the past one year.
- 2 Youth has engaged in multiple delinquent acts for more than one year but has had periods of at least 3 months where he/she did not engage in delinquent behavior.
- 3 Youth has engaged in multiple criminal or delinquent acts for more than one year without any period of at least 3 months where he/she did not engage in criminal or delinquent behavior.

**ARRESTS** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days.*

- 0 Youth has no known arrests in past.
- 1 Youth has history of delinquency, but no arrests past 30 days.
- 2 Youth has 1 to 2 arrests in last 30 days.
- 3 Youth has more than 2 arrests in last 30 day.

**PLANNING** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 No evidence of any planning. Delinquent behavior appears opportunistic or impulsive.
- 1 Evidence suggests that youth places him/herself into situations where the likelihood of delinquent behavior is enhanced.
- 2 Evidence of some planning of delinquent behavior.
- 3 Considerable evidence of significant planning of delinquent behavior. Behavior is clearly premeditated.

**COMMUNITY SAFETY** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Youth presents no risk to the community. He/she could be unsupervised in the community.
- 1 Youth engages in behavior that represents a risk to community property.
- 2 Youth engages in behavior that places community residents in some danger of physical harm. This danger may be an indirect effect of the youth's behavior.
- 3 Youth engages in behavior that directly places community members in danger of significant physical harm.

**PEER INFLUENCES** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 Youth's primary peer social network does not engage in delinquent behavior.
- 1 Youth has peers in his/her primary peer social network who do not engage in delinquent behavior but has some peers who do.
- 2 Youth predominantly has peers who engage in delinquent behavior but youth is not a member of a gang.
- 3 Youth is a member of a gang whose membership encourages or requires illegal behavior as an aspect of gang membership.

**PARENTAL INFLUENCES** *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days*

- 0 There is no evidence that youth's parents have ever engaged in criminal behavior.
- 1 One of youth's parents has history of criminal behavior but youth has not been in contact with this parent for at least one year.
- 2 One of youth's parents has history of criminal behavior and youth has been in contact with this parent in the past year.
- 3 Both of youth's parents have history of criminal behavior.

**ENVIRONMENTAL INFLUENCES** *Please rate the environment around the youth's living situation*

- 0 No evidence that the child's environment stimulates or exposes the child to any criminal behavior.
- 1 Mild problems in the child's environment that might expose the child to criminal behavior.
- 2 Moderate problems in the child's environment that clearly expose the child to criminal behavior.
- 3 Severe problems in the child's environment that stimulate the child to engage in criminal behavior.

**FIRE SETTING****SERIOUSNESS** *Please rate most recent incident*

- 0 Child has engaged in fire setting that resulted in only minor damage (e.g. camp fire in the back yard which scorched some lawn).
- 1 Child has engaged in fire setting that resulted only in some property damage that required repair.
- 2 Child has engaged in fire setting which caused significant damage to property (e.g. burned down house).
- 3 Child has engaged in fire setting that injured self or others.

**HISTORY** *Please rate using time frames provided in the anchors*

- 0 Only one known occurrence of fire setting behavior.
- 1 Youth has engaged in multiple acts of fire setting in the past year.
- 2 Youth has engaged in multiple acts of fire setting for more than one year but has had periods of at least 6 months where he/she did not engage in fire setting behavior.
- 3 Youth has engaged in multiple acts of fire setting for more than one year without any period of at least 3 months where he/she did not engage in fire setting behavior.

**PLANNING** *Please rate most recent incident*

- 0 No evidence of any planning. Fire setting behavior appears opportunistic or impulsive.
- 1 Evidence suggests that youth places him/herself into situations where the likelihood of fire setting behavior is enhanced.
- 2 Evidence of some planning of fire setting behavior.
- 3 Considerable evidence of significant planning of fire setting behavior. Behavior is clearly premeditated.

**USE OF ACCELERANTS** *Please rate most recent incident*

- 0 No evidence of any use of accelerants (e.g., gasoline). Fire setting involved only starters such as matches or a lighter.
- 1 Evidence suggests that the fire setting involved some use of mild accelerants (e.g. sticks, paper) but no use of liquid accelerants.
- 2 Evidence that fire setting involved the use of a limited amount of liquid accelerants but that some care was taken to limit the size of the fire.
- 3 Considerable evidence of significant use of accelerants in an effort to secure a very large and dangerous fire.

**INTENTION TO HARM** *Please rate most recent incident*

- 0 Child did not intend to harm others with fire. He/she took efforts to maintain some safety.
- 1 Child did not intend to harm others but took no efforts to maintain safety.
- 2 Child intended to seek revenge or scare others but did not intend physical harm, only intimidation.
- 3 Child intended to injure or kill others.

**COMMUNITY SAFETY** *Please rate highest level in the past 30 days*

- 0 Child presents no risk to the community. He/she could be unsupervised in the community.
- 1 Child engages in fire setting behavior that represents a risk to community property.
- 2 Child engages in fire setting behavior that places community residents in some danger of physical harm. This danger may be an indirect effect of the youth's behavior.
- 3 Child engages in fire setting behavior that intentionally places community members in danger of significant physical harm. Child attempts to use fires to hurt others.

**RESPONSE TO ACCUSATION** *Please rate highest level in the past 30 days*

- 0 Child admits to behavior and expresses remorse and desire to not repeat.
- 1 Child partially admits to behaviors and expresses some remorse.
- 2 Child admits to behavior but does not express remorse.
- 3 Child neither admits to behavior nor expresses remorse. Child is in complete denial.

**REMORSE** *Please rate highest level in the past 30 days*

- 0 Child accepts responsibility for behavior and is truly sorry for any damage/risk caused. Child is able to apologize directly to effected people.
- 1 Child accepts responsibility for behavior and appears to be sorry for any damage/risk caused. However, child is unable or unwilling to apologize to effected people.
- 2 Child accepts some responsibility for behavior but also blames others. May experience sorrow at being caught or receiving consequences. May express sorrow/remorse but only in an attempt to reduce consequences.
- 3 Child accepts no responsibility and does not appear to experience any remorse.

**LIKELIHOOD OF FUTURE FIRE SETTING** *Please rate highest level in the past 30 days*

- 0 Child is unlikely to set fires in the future. Child able and willing to exert self-control over fire setting.
- 1 Child presents mild to moderate risk of fire setting in the future. Should be monitored but does not require ongoing treatment/intervention.
- 2 Child remains at risk of fire setting if left unsupervised. Child struggles with self-control.
- 3 Child presents a real and present danger of fire setting in the immediate future. Child unable or unwilling to exert self-control over fire setting behavior.